

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/905,786

Examiner

Trang U. Tran

Applicant(s)

BOHM ET AL.

Art Unit

2622

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment filed on May 09, 2006 and July 13, 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 17-20 and 23-27 (renumbered 1-9).
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application   |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                       | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date <u>9/22/2006</u> . |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date ____     | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment   |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material | 8. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance                                     |
|  | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other ____.   |

### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Peter Stecher (Registration No. 47,259) on September 22, 2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claims 22 and 28 have been canceled.

In claim 17, line 15, the phrase "the average value" has been changed to --an average value--, and line 16, the phrase "the same as, but higher than the lower DC value" has been changed to -- the same as, but not higher than a lowest DC value--.

In claim 19, line 16, the phrase "the average value" has been changed to --an average value--, line 17, the phrase "the same as, but higher than the lower DC value" has been changed to -- the same as, but not higher than a lowest DC value--, and line 20, the phrase "at a predetermined rate" has been changed to --at the predetermined rate--.

In claim 20, line 17, the phrase "the average value" has been changed to --an average value--, and line 18, the phrase "the same as, but higher than the lower DC value" has been changed to -- the same as, but not higher than a lowest DC value--.

In claim 23, line 10, the phrase "the average value" has been changed to --an average value--, and line 11, the phrase "the same as, but higher than the lower DC value" has been changed to -- the same as, but not higher than a lowest DC value--.

In claim 24, line 11, the phrase "the average value" has been changed to --an average value--, and line 12, the phrase "the same as, but higher than the lower DC value" has been changed to -- the same as, but not higher than a lowest DC value--.

In claim 25, line 11, the phrase "the average value" has been changed to --an average value--, and line 12, the phrase "the same as, but higher than the lower DC value" has been changed to -- the same as, but not higher than a lowest DC value--.

In claim 26, line 15, the phrase "the average value" has been changed to --an average value--, and line 16, the phrase "the same as, but higher than the lower DC value" has been changed to -- the same as, but not higher than a lowest DC value--.

In claim 27, line 11, the phrase "the average value" has been changed to --an average value--, and line 12, the phrase "the same as, but higher than the lower DC value" has been changed to -- the same as, but not higher than a lowest DC value--.

These changes will place this application in condition for allowance.

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Trang U. Tran whose telephone number is (571) 272-7358. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 AM - 5:30 PM, Monday to Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David L. Ometz can be reached on (571) 272-7593. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

September 22, 2006



Trang U. Tran  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2622